

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

Listing of Claims:

1. - 22. (Cancelled)

23. (New) A process for constructing a braided stent having at least two regions, each region comprising a discrete plurality of filaments, the process comprising the steps of:

(a) braiding first sections of a first discrete plurality of filaments to form a first region using a first braiding machine for accommodating at least a first number of bobbin carriers;

(b) braiding second sections of the first plurality of filaments together with a second discrete plurality of filaments to form the second region using a second braiding machine for accommodating at least a second number of bobbin carriers that is different from the first number.

24. (New) The process of claim 23, wherein step (b) comprises braiding second sections of the second plurality of filaments, the process further comprising the step of:

(c) braiding the first sections of the second discrete plurality of filaments to form a third region.

25. (New) The process of claim 24, wherein step (c) comprises using the first braiding machine.

26. (New) The process of claim 24, wherein step (c) comprises using a third braiding machine.

27. (New) The process of claim 26, wherein step (c) comprises using a third braiding machine that accommodates a third number of bobbin carriers.

28. (New) The process of claim 27 wherein the first number is equal to the third number.

29. (New) The process of claim 27 wherein the second number is equal to the first number plus the third number.

30. (New) The process of claim 27 wherein the first number is less than a full capacity of the first braiding machine, the second number is less than a full capacity of the second braiding machine, and third number is less than a full capacity of the third braiding machine.

31. (New) The process of claim 27 wherein each of the first number, the second number, and the third number are equivalent to a capacity of the respective braiding machine that produces a 1:1 braiding ratio.

32. (New) The process of claim 31, wherein said first and third numbers of bobbin carriers is 12 and the second number of bobbin carriers is 24.

33. (New) The process of claim 23 wherein the first number is less than a full capacity of the first braiding machine and the second number is less than a full capacity of the second braiding machine.

34. (New) The process of claim 23 wherein each of the first number and the second number are equivalent to a capacity of the respective braiding machine that produces a 1:1 braiding ratio.

35. (New) The process of claim 24, wherein each bobbin carrier is adapted to hold a bobbin having a filament wound thereon, a first plurality of bobbins is used in step (a), and a second plurality of bobbins is used in step (c), the process further comprising: performing steps (a) and (c) before step (b).

36. (New) The process of claim 23, wherein each bobbin carrier is adapted to hold a bobbin having a filament wound thereon, a first plurality of bobbins is used in step (a), and a second plurality of bobbins is used in step (c), the process further comprising: performing step (b) before steps (a) and (c).

37. (New) The process of claim 23 comprising creating a bifurcated stent in which the first region comprises a first leg of the bifurcated stent and the second region comprises a body of the bifurcated stent.

38. (New) The process of claim 24 comprising creating a bifurcated stent in which the first region comprises a first leg of the bifurcated stent, the third region comprises a second leg of the bifurcated stent, and the second region comprises a body of the bifurcated stent.

39. (New) A braided stent prepared by the process of claim 38.

40. (New) The braided stent of claim 39 wherein each of the first region, the second region, and the third region comprise braided sections having a braid with a 1:1 ratio.

41. (New) A braided stent prepared by the process of claim 23.

42. (New) The braided stent of claim 40 wherein each of the first region and the second region comprise braided sections having a braid with a 1:1 ratio.